

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

Claims 1, 3-25, and 27-29 were pending. Applicants have amended claims 1, 10, 18, and 25. Support for the amendment to each of the claims can be found, for example, at paragraph [0025] and the Figures of the present application. For the reasons stated below, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims pending in this application are in condition for allowance.

In the Office Action mailed December 9, 2004, all of claims 1, 3-25, and 27-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fukumara in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,329,954 by Fuchs et al. ("Fuchs"). To the extent this ground of rejection might still be applied to claims presently pending in this application, it is respectfully traversed.

Amended claim 1 recites an antenna connection detection system for confirming connections of two antennae to a radio receiver, wherein a receiver "supplies a first voltage signal to the first antenna connection port and detects whether a second voltage signal is present at the second antenna connection port, thereby confirming that both the first and second antennae are connected to the radio receiver," wherein a "circuit comprises a low noise amplifier (LNA) module located between the first and second antennae and the receiver, and wherein the circuit further comprises a voltage regulator that provides a regulated voltage to the LNA module, the voltage regulator being powered by the first voltage signal. Similar "regulator powering" features are also now recited in amended independent claims 10, 18, and 25.

Applicants respectfully submit that neither Fukumura nor Fuchs teaches or suggests the regulator powering features as recited in amended claims 1, 10, 18, and 25. As described in

Fukumura, see Abstract and col. 3, lines 11-39, the DC potential applied to a hold line of the antenna feeder via a resistor is predetermined. When the hot line 41 is held in a normal connection, the DC potential at terminal 503 remains in "L" (low), while when the hot line 41 is broken, the DC potential at terminal 503 turns to "H" (high). Apparently, the DC potential in Fukumura is not regulated based on a voltage signal received from the receiver. Thus, Fukumura fails to teach or suggest the voltage regulator feature, as recited in the amended independent claims.

Fuchs simply describes that both a satellite antenna 110 and a terrestrial antenna 120 are connected to an LNA 172, see col. 4, lines 44-46. However, Fuchs does not disclose the features of the amended claims of the present application. The object of Fuchs is to provide a mechanical structure of a combination satellite and terrestrial antenna system, in which the terrestrial antenna is one or more antenna elements arranged either concentrically with, or in a symmetrical configuration with respect to, the satellite antenna. Fuchs is silent with respect to powering LNA 172, let alone powering the LNA with a regulated "version" of a voltage signal used as part of a connection detection circuit, as required by the claims of the present application.

Accordingly, neither Fukumura nor Fuchs, when taken singly or in combination, teaches or suggests a regulator that provides a regulated voltage to an LNA module, wherein the regulator is powered by a voltage supplied to an antenna connection port, as recited in amended claim 1 and similarly in amended claims 10, 18, and 25. Furthermore, as the DC potential of Fukumura is predetermined and is not used to provide a power signal to an LNA module, but to indicate the status of the hot lines 31 and 41, it would not have been obvious for one skilled in

the art to combine the LNA element of Fuchs into the system of Fukumura to achieve the systems and method of amended claims 1, 10, 18, and 25.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 10, 18, and 25 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Fukumura in view of Fuchs. Further, dependent claims 3-9, 11-17, 19-24, and 27-29 should also be patentable at least due to their dependencies on patentable independent claims.

In view of the foregoing all of the claims in this case are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions or determine that any further action is desirable to place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone applicants' undersigned representative at the number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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By:


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